

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces any and all prior claim lists.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Original). A transdermal formulation for external application comprising a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic, an alkyl ester of gallic acid, and a phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group.

Claim 2 (previously presented). The transdermal formulation for external application according to claim 1, wherein said phenolic radical scavenger is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *tert*-butylhydroxyanisole, di-*tert*-butylhydroxytoluene and thymol.

Claim 3 (previously presented). The transdermal formulation for external application according to claim 1, wherein said alkyl ester of gallic acid is an ester of gallic acid and a lower alcohol.

Claim 4 (previously presented). The transdermal formulation for external application according to claim 1, wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketoprofen, tiaprofen, suprofen, tolmetin, carprofen, benoxaprofen, piroxicam, benzydamine, naproxen, diclofenac, ibuprofen, diflunisal and azapropazone.

Claim 5 (currently amended). An interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor consisting of at least one member selected from the group consisting of a phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group and an alkyl ester of gallic acid.

Claim 6 (previously presented). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 5, wherein said phenolic radical scavenger is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *tert*-butylhydroxyanisole, di-*tert*-butylhydroxytoluene and thymol.

Claim 7 (previously presented). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 5, wherein said alkyl ester of gallic acid is an ester of gallic acid and a lower alcohol.

Claim 8 (previously presented). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 5, which is used as a component in a transdermal formulation for external application comprising a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic.

Claim 9 (previously presented). The interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 8, wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketoprofen, tiaprofen, suprofen, tolmetin, carprofen, benoxaprofen, piroxicam, benzydamine, naproxen, diclofenac, ibuprofen, diflunisal and azapropazone.

Claim 10 (previously presented). A transdermal formulation for external application comprising the interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production inhibitor according to claim 5 and a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic.

Claim 11 (previously presented). The transdermal formulation for external application according to claim 10, wherein said non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketoprofen, tiaprofen, suprofen, tolmetin, carprofen, benoxaprofen, piroxicam, benzydamine, naproxen, diclofenac, ibuprofen, diflunisal and azapropazone.

Claim 12 (currently amended). A method for inhibiting interleukin-1 $\alpha$  production comprising utilizing at least one member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) A a phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group, and
- (b) ~~An~~ an alkyl ester of gallic acid.

Claim 13 (currently amended). A transdermal formulation for external application comprising a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic and at least one member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) A a phenolic radical scavenger having a branched-chain lower alkyl group, and
- (b) ~~An~~ an alkyl ester of gallic acid.